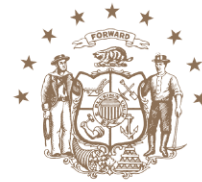




SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



For Immediate Release
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WITH NO ADDITIONAL REVENUE AVAILABLE, FUNDING K-12 EDUCATION IS ABOUT PRIORITIES

MADISON – Today, Representative Sondy Pope (D-Cross Plains) issued a statement regarding the lack of additional revenue for the upcoming biennium and how it may effect K-12 education.

“The numbers released forecasting no additional state revenue show that Governor Walker and the Republicans have failed once again at putting the citizens of Wisconsin first. Republican legislators continue to enable the Governor’s penchant for irresponsible, short-sighted and destructive policies that only serve his presidential ambitions. “

Since Governor Walker has been in office, Wisconsin public schools have suffered an estimated \$1.6 billion in cuts. His disregard for quality public education has kept funding barely above 2009 levels.

“If the Governor’s previous cuts and attacks on educators weren’t bad enough, his current budget plan will cut an additional \$126 million from our schools, said Rep. Pope. Adequately funding public schools is about establishing priorities and Governor Walker and Republicans have made it clear time and again that it is not a Republican priority.”

Several school districts around the state are barely functioning on current funding levels and many are completely dependent on local tax referendums. Programs, teachers and other critical staff are being cut to compensate for this lack of funding.

“It upsets me to see the current administration sacrifice our childrens’ education and future to create the illusion of a balanced budget. Rep. Pope said. It is my hope that Governor Walker and Republicans come to their senses to do what is right for Wisconsin families and restore the proposed cuts to public education.”

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